

1 What is claimed is:

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- 3 1. An aqueous oral rinse composition comprising: (a) benzocaine; (b)
- 4 carbomer; and (c) water.
- 5
- 6 2. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is
- 7 non-alcoholic.
- 8
- 9 3. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is
- 10 transparent.
- 11
- 12 4. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein the carbomer is
- 13 over neutralized with 0.001% to 3% by weight of a neutralizing agent other than
- 14 benzocaine.
- 15
- 16 5. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 4, wherein the neutralizing
- 17 agent is triethanol amine.
- 18
- 19 6. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein the benzocaine is
- 20 present in an amount greater than 0.04% by weight of the composition.
- 21
- 22 7. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein the benzocaine is
- 23 present in an amount between 0.07% and 5% by weight of the composition.
- 24
- 25 8. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein the carbomer
- 26 represents no more than 10% of the total weight of the composition.
- 27

1 9. The aqueous oral rinse compositing of claim 1, wherein the weight ratio of
2 benzocaine to carbomer is approximately 2:1.

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4 10. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 1, wherein water represents at
5 least 80% by weight of the total composition.

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7 11. The aqueous oral rinse composite of claim 1, additionally comprising
8 preservatives, weak carboxylic acids, antibacterial agents, buffering agents, surfactants,
9 sweetening agents, flavoring agents humectants, emulsifiers, and colorants.

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11 12. A non-alcoholic aqueous oral rinse comprising: (a) more than 0.04% by
12 weight benzocaine; carbomer in an amount roughly equal to half the amount of benzocaine;
13 and at least 80% by weight water.

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15 13. The non-alcoholic aqueous oral rinse of claim 12, wherein the composition
16 is transparent.

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18 14. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 12, wherein the carbomer is
19 over neutralized with 0.001% to 3% by weight of a neutralizing agent other than
20 benzocaine.

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22 15. The aqueous oral rinse composition of claim 13, wherein the neutralizing
23 agent is triethanol amine.

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25 16. The non-alcoholic aqueous oral rinse of claim 12, wherein said rinse
26 comprises the following ingredients in the following amounts:

27 surfactant 0.001-3

1	emulsifier	<1.5
2	flavoring agent	0.001-2
3	carbomer	>0.08 - 10
4	benzocaine	>0.04 - 5
5	preservative	<0.05
6	water	>80
7	buffering agent	2-5
8	sweetening agent	0.001 - 0.25
9	sodium benzoate	0.05 - 0.2
10	weak acid	0.01 - 1
11	neutralizing agent other than benzocaine	0.001 - 3

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13 17. The non-alcoholic aqueous oral rinse of claim 12, wherein said rinse
14 comprises the following ingredients in the following amounts:

15	polysorbate	0.12
16	cocamidopropyl betaine	0.60
17	flavoring agent	0.19
18	carbomer	0.04
19	benzocaine	0.08
20	methylparaben	0.12
21	water	94.10
22	sodium citrate	2.78
23	sodium saccharin	0.09
24	sodium benzoate	0.11
25	citric acid	0.08
26	triethanolamine	1.69

27

1 18. A process for making a non-alcoholic aqueous oral rinse comprising the
2 following steps:

- 3 (i) dispersing carbomer in aqueous media; and
4 (ii) adding more than 0.04% by weight benzocaine to the media.

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6 19. The process of claim 18, wherein the ratio of benzocaine to carbomer is
7 approximately 2:1.

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9 20. The process of claim 18, additionally comprising step (iii), wherein a
10 neutralizing agent other than benzocaine is added to over neutralize the carbomer and form a
11 transparent solution